

News Release

Premier Announces New Deputy Ministers

IQALUIT, NU (June 10, 2011) – Premier Eva Aariak today announced the appointment of a new Deputy Minister of Executive, Deputy Minister of Finance and Deputy Minister of Human Resources.

Daniel Vandermeulen will become Deputy Minister of Executive, and will also serve as Secretary to Cabinet and Secretary to the Senior Personnel Secretariat. Mr. Chris D'Arcy will become Deputy Minister of Finance and Mr. Joe Kunuk will become Deputy Minister of Human Resources.

"I would like to welcome our new deputies to their roles in the senior executive," said Premier Eva Aariak. "These individuals have proven themselves as highly capable and result-oriented leaders who are committed to improving the public service through the implementation of our *Tamapta* mandate."

Mr. Vandermeulen has served as President of Nunavut Arctic College since 2007. Originally from Alberta, Mr. Vandermeulen has governance experience as a municipal councilor, the chair of the board of trustees of a large rural school division, and a member of provincial boards. He has worked as an educator, administrator and superintendent since 1968, and served for nearly 20 years as the President of Northern Lakes Colleges. Mr. Vandermeulen holds a B.Ed., B.A., and M.Ed. from the University of Alberta.

Mr. D'Arcy is currently acting Deputy Minister of Finance, and has served as Assistant Deputy Minister, Policy and Planning, since 2009. Since 1995, Mr. D'Arcy has held various managerial positions in Nunavut, most recently as the Director of Corporate Policy and Secretary for the Crown Agency Council for the Department of Finance. Educated through Dawson College and McGill University (Economics) and the Certified General Accountants Association of Canada (4th year), Mr. D'Arcy also holds a professional designation as a Certified Association Executive (CAE). Prior to venturing North, Chris worked for over ten years in the not-for-profit sector in Alberta.

The Premier also announced today that she has accepted the resignation of Louise Wasson, Deputy Minister of Human Resources, who will be retiring from the public service.

"I would like to thank Louise for her contributions to the Department of Human Resources, especially her leadership in addressing the Auditor General's report on Government of Nunavut capacity," said Premier Eva Aariak.

Joe Adla Kunuk, currently the Premier's Principal Secretary, will become the new Deputy Minister of Human Resources.

"Joe has been extremely adept in the role of Principal Secretary, and while I am sorry to lose him in this position, the Department of Human Resources will be undergoing a tremendous amount of work in the coming years," said Premier Eva Aariak. "Joe has thirty years of managerial experience, including an extensive background in human resources and the Department will benefit significantly from his leadership."

Prior to his work as Principal Secretary, Mr. Kunuk was Chief Executive Officer of Nunavut Tunngavik Inc., where he played an integral role in restructuring the organization. Mr. Kunuk has previous experience as the Deputy Minister of Human Resources, the Deputy Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs with the Office of the Interim Commissioner, and as a Regional Superintendent with the Department of Personnel. Mr. Kunuk holds a certificate in Business Administration, and has held wide-ranging memberships and offices, including the Mayor of Iqaluit, Director of Nunasi Corporation, Executive Member of the Inuit Circumpolar Conference, Director of the Qikiqtaaluk Corporation, and the NTI Chief Negotiator.

The appointment of Mr. D'Arcy is effective June 13, 2011, the appointment of Mr. Vandermeulen is effective June 20, 2011, and the appointment of Mr. Kunuk is effective July 29, 2011.

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